

The
Jewish

Sha'arZahav

Gaily Forward

"Transcend the Ordinary"

Nisan - Sivan 5777 / April - June 2017

Introducing Rabbi Mychal Copeland -Sha'ar Zahav's New Rabbi

By KAREN SCHILLER, RABBI SEARCH COMMITTEE CO-CHAIR

At a special congregational meeting on March 19, Sha'ar Zahav members voted to approve the recommendation of the search committee and Va'ad and hire Rabbi Mychal Copeland as our new "settled" rabbi. Rabbi Copeland's current position is the director of InterfaithFamily Bay Area where, according to her website, "I help interfaith couples navigate bringing two backgrounds into one

*"I am drawn to Sha'ar Zahav
because it is one of the unique
places in the contemporary Jewish
landscape where exciting, out-of-
the-box Judaism is occurring."*

- Rabbi Mychal Copeland



home." Prior to that, she was the Rabbi and Senior Jewish Educator at Hillel at Stanford for eleven years. Many Sha'ar Zahav members know her from her work as a Rabbi in Residence at Camp Ta-wonga, and from her presentations to Introduction to Judaism classes. She was an Assistant Rabbi at The Jewish Center of Princeton, NJ, a Conservative Egalitarian synagogue, and a Rabbinic Intern at Congregation Beth Simchat Torah, New York's LGBT synagogue. She is a founder of "It's a Girl Thing," a teen Rosh Chodesh (new moon) program, and recently co-edited the book *(continued on pg. 14)*

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Thank You

By RABBI TED RITER



Thank you so much for the opportunity to serve as your rabbi for the past two years -- I am so grateful to you all.

Our transition time together has had many highlights for me. First and foremost, we hired Adam Pollack for our newly created Director of Engage-

ment role and Leeaht Segev as our Director of Education. In just a few short months, Adam has made strong connections with new and long-time members alike and has brought innovative ideas into programming and outreach. Leeaht, with great support from parents, is bringing new energy and ideas into our BSPM and ensuring every child builds a strong connection with their Judaism.

These two years have been a time to unpack the identity work we conducted through the help of the LightBox Collaborative and the sponsorship of the Walter & Elise Haas Fund. We can see the results of this study in very concrete ways when we look at our newly designed website. We feel the influence of the study when we look at new

elements of our Shabbat service, our programming and our messaging.

During my short tenure, we've moved back to the Herbst and purchased a new machzor (prayerbook) for the High Holy Days. Behind the scenes, we have formalized our accounting and new member procedures, rewritten our employee handbook and drafted new non-harassment policies, and established clear lines of staff accountability. We have committed to outreach to LGBTQ refugees, and of course, we have now hired a new "settled" rabbi for our synagogue.

I could not be more proud to welcome Rabbi Mychal Copeland as Sha'ar Zahav's new rabbi. She brings a warmth and depth that are beautifully suited for our community. She will lead you, challenge you, console you and inspire you. And, I believe, she will find in you a community ready to embrace her with all of your love, hopes and dreams. May this be a beshert (meant-to-be) match for all of you.

Two years ago, I included the following in my first JGF article: "I recognize some of you may be reticent to build a relationship with me given my interim term will end next summer. I absolutely understand and respect this view. Though I hope to remain in (continued on page 13)

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Judith Wolfe, and Laura Lowe (ex officio)

Spirituality In The Corners

By CANTOR SHARON BERNSTEIN



I have an admission to make. While I love Pesach, I dread Pesach cleaning. The prospect of it starts creeping up on me before Purim; starting to notice the too-many boxes of pasta, the mostly-full container of flour, trying to determine and allocate bread purchases to allow for just the right number of school

lunch sandwiches.

There is immense satisfaction once the process is done. The dishes purified and changed, the simplicity of less cookware, gadgets and appliances. The reaching for something where it "usually is" only to realize its replacement this week is elsewhere (and then having to reverse the process at the end of the week). However, at the outset, the enormity of the task feels overwhelming.

Pesach cleaning involves different things for different people – in my life I have found myself at varying points along the continuum between "symbolic" and "strict." But, in theory, it is some combination of intense spring cleaning and a religious rite of passage, searching for that

tiny hiding speck of chametz, of leavening, that might be depurifying the house.

There is a distinct parallel between the kind of searching that one does at Pesach and at the High Holy Days. Where the searching of Yom Kippur is overtly internal, the searching of Pesach is more physical; the inner work has to be intentionally woven in. It is very easy to get caught up in the physical preparations and neglect the spiritual, especially given that, once the cleaning is done, the cooking begins, including, on my end, hand-chopping massive numbers of dried figs and apricots for Italian charoset (for recipe see page 8).

My goal this year is to make that Pesach cleaning more spiritual. To let those moments scrubbing out the pantry corners combine with poring over and cleansing my internal workings. To have the external sorting and organizing inspire me to re-stack the tupperware of my soul. And maybe, for this one week, to see if I can put things in different places, see and feel them from different angles.

And, from there, start walking the road to liberation.

Chag sameach!

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Creating Our Own Spiritual Moments

By LEEAHT SEGEV / Director of Education



In my last article, I spoke of the why. Why are we Jewish? Why are we here? Why are we bringing our children here and how do we help them find their own why? In this article I'd like to talk about the practical aspect of how we find that why. It is a cliché but true: our lives

are busier than ever. We have soccer, dance, play dates to juggle, dinner to prepare, the list seems never ending. Many of us work full time on top of all the daily responsibilities.

By the time Friday night rolls around, we are tired and ready to rest. Who has the energy to then come to Shabbat services? Plus the traffic, oy the traffic! It is precisely for all those reasons that it is so important to make time to attend services with your family. Judaism has a funny way of building into our daily lives exactly what we need. Spending an evening in song and prayer with the community you have chosen to be a part of is the perfect way to take a break from all the stresses of the week.

Back to the practical aspect, our kids sit through a services, and most, if not all of them, will one day lead a service for their B'nai Mitzvah. Going to services allows them to feel comfortable as Jews in prayer, both now and as adults.

When I arrived in September, I began a listening campaign with both our school parents and the synagogue's Va'ad. Hearing their dreams for our school and children has laid the groundwork for important new initiatives that have already begun. These changes could not have been possible without the full support of the Va'ad and our Children's Education Committee. I had an

opportunity to ask Va'ad members why they felt it was so important to have a school. What I heard was very beautiful and, in fact, similar to what families had been telling me: "These kids belong to our entire community. It really does take a village and we want to be that village." During these conversations, the word "inter-generational" came up again and again.

Based on their feedback, the Education Committee and I are bringing this idea to life. Approximately every four weeks, we will have a special day of school that will allow the entire community to join together around a central theme. We will learn and celebrate together as one.

Our first special Inter-generational Day of Learning will be on April 15 from 9:15 to 11:45 and will include a short Learners' Service. This will allow the whole community an opportunity to learn more about how and why our services are structured the way they are. We will also be having a special program around Passover and refugees. Plus, matzah pizza! More details will be posted to the website.

Then on May 13 we will come together again as a community to celebrate the last day of Beit Sefer Phyllis Mintzer (BSPM) and have another opportunity to learn together. How do all these various points tie in together? You can't be comfortable in services if you don't go. You can't find your why if you are not involved. We have so much going on at Sha'ar Zahav. Go online and look at our calendar. Join our private Facebook group.

Sha'ar Zahav truly is a beautiful and magical community. We have all made the choice to be here, both school families and the larger community. Let's work together on creating spiritual moments to be a part of. Those moments can only happen if you walk through the door. I look forward to seeing you and building this amazing village together.

Prayer in the Pursuit of Justice

By ADAM POLLACK / Former Director of Engagement



Growing up, my family had an open door policy; literally, our back sliding door was always unlocked. Friends and family would stop by to say hello, grab a snack or join us for a meal. We never knew who would show up, yet we were always ready.

At Passover, my family would transform our home into a giant dining room so we could accommodate 40-50 of our friends and family. Jews and non-Jews alike, we recited the story of the Jews leaving Egypt, of redemption and of the birth of a people dedicated to social justice.

Now that I have my own family and home, we welcome our friends and family at holidays and throughout the year. On the second night of Passover in 2013, my husband and I hosted a seder at our home in Twin Peaks. As we retold the exodus story, we heard voices from a massive rally in the Castro. It was also the evening before the Supreme Court heard the US vs. Windsor case, which overturned DOMA.

At that moment, I was reminded of a quote from Abraham Joshua Heschel: "When I marched in Selma, my feet were praying." Sometimes we are compelled to pray with our feet, while other times we pray with our hearts. That evening, my home was full of prayer as was the rally; we were both doing our parts to make the world more just.

In recent months, many of us have rededicated ourselves to the pursuit of justice. Sha'ar Zahav members have taken action in the spirit of tik-kun olam (repairing the world): attending rallies, lobbying their government representatives, serving on social action committees and hosting LGBT refugees and learning about issues

*"Sometimes we are
compelled to pray with
our feet, while other
times we pray with
our hearts."*

-Adam Pollack

important to them, to name a few. And every Shabbat, I have witnessed our congregation open its doors and welcome individuals in for prayer, reflection and community. We take time to reboot ourselves, preparing our bodies to pray with our feet once again.

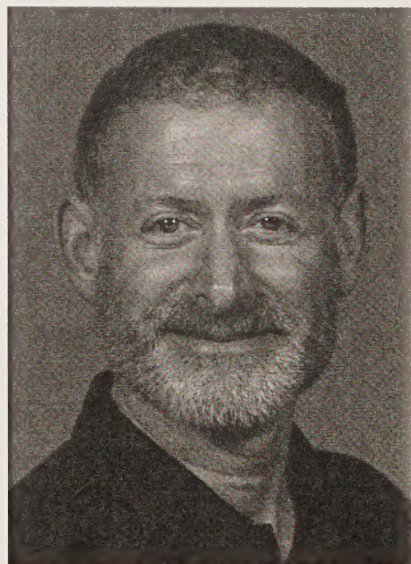
Sha'ar Zahav is a place where we discover ourselves and what we are capable of. By praying with our actions and words, we create something very special together: a community dedicated to justice and to welcoming the stranger.

By the time you read this, I will have begun an exciting new position with Hillel International, but will have ongoing involvement in a different capacity.

In the Book of Numbers we are reminded "And you are to love those who are strangers, for you yourselves were strangers in Egypt."

We Emerged From a Place of Narrowness

By MICHAEL CHERTOK



This time of year, our Jewish narrative reminds us that we must all remember how we were once slaves in Egypt and that we emerged from this place of narrowness to become free. How do we make this memory meaningful in our lives today?

First, I think, we make time to remember. The act of recollection allows us to empathize with those who are suffering or are not free, as well as to feel gratitude for the freedoms we enjoy. We are blessed that our tradition, and our community, offer us many ways to do this.

Perhaps you will observe the ritual of a Pesach seder in your home with family or with friends. You are most welcome to join our Sha'ar Zahav's Homemade Seder on Tuesday evening, April 11th, always a fabulous and memorable occasion. Even if you don't observe this ritual, you might refrain from eating chametz (or just bread) for the holiday. Or, simply eating dry matzah as part of a Passover observance is a symbolic way to hold onto to the memory of hardship.

While recollecting our history at this time of year is important, it is not enough. I believe that as Jews we must also consider social action. Just as we are told that the Red Sea did not part until Nachshon walked into the water until it was above his mouth, we must play a role to participate in the journey to freedom.

Our Sha'ar Zahav Social Action Committee is doing just that by focusing on helping immigrants and refugees in our community; perhaps you might join the committee, or participate in one of their events and activities. Or, choose

your own way to advocate for the rights of people who are struggling. You might also decide that this is an important time to make a financial contribution to help the cause of your choice.

Finally, I believe it is useful to reflect internally on where we may still hold onto places of narrowness in our own selves. Are there ways in which we are not seeing b'tselem Elohim (the face of G-d) in others? This year, during our Leadership Advance, we realized that we sometimes don't "see" and engage with others who are not like us.

One group we identified whom we frequently don't welcome are the non-Jewish partners of our members in interfaith relationships. Rabbi Riter has been working with a committee to update our by-laws in consideration of non-Jewish partners who choose to also seek membership.

"we must play a role to participate in the journey to freedom."

-Michael Chertok

As I'm now in a relationship with a non-Jewish partner, this especially struck a chord with me. Personally, I am trying even harder to reach out and help these partners who are part of our community to feel more welcome.

In this season of Passover, I hope you may find ways to remember, act and reflect as if you personally were part of the Exodus. And I invite you to share this experience with other members of our community, and to encourage them to do the same.

Purim Memories

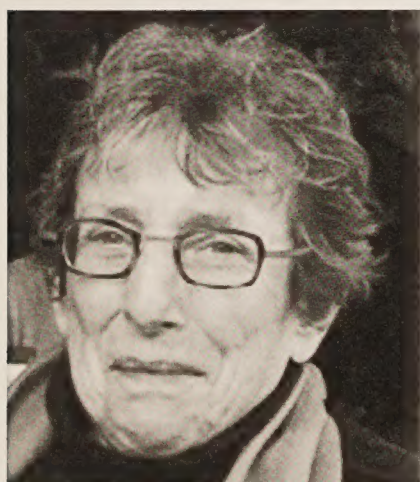
PHOTOS By ADAM POLLACK



SHA'AR ZAHAV LEGACY

My Legacy Gift To CSZ

By SHOSHANA LEVENBERG



Legacies are for rich folk, if not the 1%, certainly out of my league. Besides, my will is less than impressive. I have only what I've earned and my retirement plan is similar to a co-worker's: earn, save, invest, spend, jump. But then I thought

about my charitable contributions. I have a roster of non-profits whose work I support. I can't write large checks but I contribute regularly

because I know that many of these organizations survive on small donations. More importantly, for me, is the notion of showing up. I am grateful to the people who are doing the work of tikkun olam; the least I can do is contribute a few bucks. I am enormously grateful to all the people who sustain our community at Sha'ar Zahav—the staff, clergy and multitude of volunteers—a community I cherish that has seen me through some hard patches. The least I can do is contribute a few bucks to the shul as well. Best of all, with the legacy campaign, the money is donated after I'm dead—when, I hear, I won't be needing much.

Paul Cohen Honored at Hillel Gala

Sha'ar Zahav members, family and staff gather around our past president, mentor, and friend Paul Cohen (seated, 4th from the right) at the SF Hillel gala which honored Paul for his years of dedicated service to Hillel and the Jewish

community. The event also raised money for the Paul J. Cohen Fund for Student Leadership (for more information, visit <http://www.sfhillel.org/asb-924061-257386.html>).



SHA'AR ZAHAV SEDER PLATE RECIPE

Haroset can be as simple as chopped apples, walnuts and sweet wine or more exotic and flavorful as in this recipe:

Venetian Haroset – from Joan Nathan's "The Jewish Holiday Kitchen"

1-1/2 cups chestnut paste
10 oz dates, chopped
12 oz figs, chopped
2 TBS poppy seeds
½ cup chopped walnuts

½ cup chopped almonds
½ cup pine nuts
Grated rind of one orange
½ cup white raisins
¼ cup chopped dried apricots
½ cup brandy
Honey to bind

Combine all ingredients, gradually adding just enough brandy and honey to make the mixture bind.

By MARC LIPSCHUTZ

At the November 16, 2016 Va'ad meeting:

- A motion was passed to join the San Francisco Interfaith Council, Adam Pollack discussed transitioning to a culture of engagement, and we began planning our CSZ 40th anniversary.

December 14, 2016 Va'ad meeting:

- Alice Harron informed us we maintain cash reserves sufficient to meet our obligations.
- Motions were passed to ask members who join between January and June to give gifts from the heart in lieu of initial dues commitments, and to partner with the Hebrew Immigrant Aid Society (HIAS) to assist Middle Eastern and LGBT refugees in the Bay Area.
- A volunteer recognition Shabbat was planned, and Martin Tannenbaum announced that the Jewish Community Federation awarded us a \$20,000 grant.

January 18, 2017 Va'ad meeting:

- Irene Ogus presented a poignant azkarah (memorial testimony) in memory of our beloved past president Richard Inlander. Richard's partner of 22 years, Ben Schalit, was present. Rabbi Ted Riter hung a plaque for Richard on our memorial wall.
- Michael Chertok encouraged us to attend shabbat services when the three candidates for our settled rabbi position will visit and teach. Michael also announced that Mark Leno, former state senator, would deliver a drash and be honored during the next Shabbat service.
- Rabbi Riter informed us that parking along the Dolores Street median has been approved from 15th to 16th Streets on Friday nights from 7:00 to 10:00 pm and Saturday mornings from 9:00 am to noon for the next sixteen months, and that parking hours would be strictly enforced.

- Adam Pollack announced that at the January 27th services, the Keshet committee will honor our volunteers, sponsor the oneg, and staff a video booth for volunteers to share their related experiences.

February 16, 2017 Va'ad meeting:

- Michael Chertok stated that Kabbalat Shabbat services have been very well attended, that the Rabbi Search Committee is very close to recommending a candidate to the Va'ad, that the Social Action Committee is assisting to resettle new refugees in the Bay Area, and that the Bay Area Reporter featured a front page, above the fold article on Sha'ar Zahav and our related refugee assistance efforts.
- Rabbi Riter stated he is creating a new Rabbi's Handbook to assist in our transition to a new Rabbi.
- Irene Ogus, chairperson of our Building and Grounds Committee, finalized the purchase of 100 upholstered chairs for our sanctuary. Building and Grounds is further planning to renovate the rabbi's study and replace our floors. First Mennonite Church of San Francisco has graciously offered to create a quilt to enhance our lobby.
- We also began a discussion to update our by-laws.

All members are encouraged to attend Va'ad meetings, usually scheduled at 7:00 p.m. on the third Wednesday of the month.

The annual congregational meeting has been scheduled for Wednesday, May 24th at 7 pm. The agenda will include election of officers and at large Va'ad members as well as approval of the budget for 2018-19

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 Don Fischer
 Sara Haber and Beth Sousa
 Laura Lowe

HHD Pledges 5777

Tom Lakritz

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The Rabbi Julius & Pearl Funk Musical Events Fund

Evan Arnold-Gordon
 in honor of Jonathan Funk
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 in memory of Harold Kerzner
 Jonathan Funk
 in honor of Sharyn Saslafsky, Nancy Meyer
 and all the volunteers for
 the Music of the Night Concert,
 Kathleen & Ernest Friedlander for
 providing the fabulous reception for
 the Music of the Night Concert
 & Larry Wexler's service as Ritual Chair,
 and in memory of Mike Kozlowski
 Jonathan Funk & John Arnold
 in memory of Harriet Hope Blecher
 Nina Gordon & April Stinson
 in honor of Jonathan Funk
 Marjorie Hilsenrad

BSPM Fund

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 in honor of Cantor Bernstein,
 and the Music of the Night Concert

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Mike Abramson

in memory of Minnie Abramson Kronick
& Benjamin Abramson

Jeffrey Auman

in honor of Adam Pollack & Donna Fein

Allan Berenstein

in memory of Harold Schwartz,
Al Radetsky, Bob Radetsky
& Richard Radetsky

James Carlson

in memory of Jan Tuzzolino, Ray Carlson,
Ken Carlson & Richard Roginski
& in honor of Rabbi Kim S. Ettlinger
& Paul Cohen

Bobbi & Harvey Chertok

in honor of Michael Chertok

Daniel Chesir

in memory of Frank Chesir, Evelyn Chesir
& Bayla Chesir Schnaidman

Steven Elman

in memory of Jerry Rosenstein

Jonathan Funk

in memory of Rabbi Julius & Pearl Funk,
Rabbi Morris & Helen Funk,
Milton & Zelda Taylor, Fay Eidelsberg,
Irving & Ethel Funk,
Joseph & Bernice Wiseman,
Judy Wiseman Davis,
Bernard & Minnie Wiseman,
Abraham & Yetta Funk
& Alan Harap

Paul Cohen & Robert Gutterman

in memory of Fay & Joseph M. Cohen,
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Michael Freedland,
David & Winifred Gutterman,
Julie Gutterman, Lillian Benson,
Hilda Kovensky & Fannie Werbe

Joan Goldman

in memory of Abraham & Ruth Goldman

Josh, Anna, Sophie & Abe Katz

in memory of Alice Katz & Suzanne Lipsett

Lewis Lehman & Francois Perrin

in honor of Adeline Lehman & Gerard Lehman

Sandra Mackler

in honor of Mark Mackler

Rachel Nancollas & Elliott Sprehn

in honor of Alan Gordon & Ron Edelman,
Alice Harron, Tina Nancollas & Bob Kopp,
Darold & Katrina Wobschall,
Shelia Nancollas, Helen Lund, Alex Ingersoll
& Martin Tannenbaum,
and in memory of George Nancollas,
Gene Sprehn & Leas'sa Sprehn

Arthur Slepian & Gerry Llamado

in honor of James Carlson & Paul Cohen

Your contributions help us realize our commitment to building and maintaining a vibrant, living community for Congregation Sha'ar Zahav. A donation can be a meaningful way to honor friends or family, engagements, anniversaries, graduations, for special thanks, or to memorialize a loved one. Collectively, with your financial support, we continue to prosper, grow, and celebrate our future.

SHA'AR ZAHAV SEDER REMINDER

Don't Forget: Join other congregants and friends at Sha'ar Zahav's "Home Made" Seder on April 11th at 6pm.

For more information or to register online, visit shaarzahav.org or contact the office at 415-861-6932.

December 1**Klezmer Shabbat**

by Martin Tannenbaum & Alex Ingersoll
in memory of Larry Tannenbaum

December 9-10**Flowers by Patty Caplan**

in memory of her father,
David Ralph Caplan

December 16-17**Oneg by Ellen Press**

in memory of her father, Dr. Marvin Press

December 23-24**Oneg by Wayne Bender**

in memory of his father, Herman Bender

December 30-31**Flowers by Michael & Jane Rice**

in memory of his mother, Paula Rice

January 6-7**Flowers by Seth Lahn**

uncle of Harry Lahn-Schroeder
in memory of Dan & Anita Lahn
& Jean Schroeder

Kiddish by Ken Schroeder

grandfather of Harry Lahn-Schroeder
in honor of Harry becoming a bar mitzvah

January 13-14**Flowers by Jeffrey Lilly**

in memory of Dolores Hulsey, his mother

January 20-21**Oneg by Va'ad**

in honor of Mark Leno

Flowers by Zaid-Augusta Family

in honor of Gil'i becoming a bar mitzvah

Kiddish by Zaid-Augusta Family

in honor of Gil'i becoming a bar mitzvah

January 27-28**Oneg by Keshet Task Force**

in honor of CSZ Volunteers

February 3-4**Flowers by Anonymous**

in honor of Alex Ingersoll's retirement
& upcoming birthday

Oneg by Rob Tat

in memory of his parents,
Carol & Russell Tat

Kiddish by Jeffrey Auman

in memory of his father
Ned Gilbert Auman

February 10-11**Flowers by Michael Chertok**

in memory of his grandmother,
Regina Broudy

February 17-18**Oneg by Steve Polsky**

in memory of his mother, Elaine Polsky

Kiddish by Jeffrey Auman

in memory of his friend Masha Zakheim

February 24-25**Flowers by Deb Kinney**

in memory of her mother, Marilyn Kinney

March 3-4**Flowers by Rose Ann Donner Colt,**

in memory of Issac C. Donner

Oneg by Howard Hahn,

in memory of Helga Hahn, his mother

March 10-11**Flowers by Bill Rowe,**

in honor of Robbie Mabe choosing Judaism

Oneg by James Carlson,

in memory of Raymond Carlson, his father

March 17-18**Flowers by Barry & Tirtza Pearl,**

in memory of Leslie Benjamin Rosenburg,
her father

Saturday Kiddish by Jeffrey Auman,

in memory of Grace Laura Scott,
his great grandmother

March 24-25**Flowers by Alexandra Family,**

in memory of Loreen Villaluna,
Oona Alexandra's aunt

Oneg by James Carlson,

in memory of Richard Roginski, his husband

Saturday Kiddish by Alexandra Family,

in memory of Morris Schertz,
Oona Alexander's grandpa

Nachas:**February 16th**

Congratulations to Mark Leno on receiving the JCRC Jewish-Civic Leadership Award.

April 2nd

Congratulations to Jonathan Funk on receiving the Rabbi Julius Funk Alumni Award at the Gala Celebration of Rutgers Hillel.

SHA'AR ZAHAV / CONDOLENCES

May Their Memories Be For a Blessing**January**

12 Irwin Leff,

partner of Adam Tetenbaum's grandmother

29 Katrina Wobschall,

grandmother of Rachel Nancollas

February

12 Robert Rosenzweig,

father of David Rosenzweig

13 Elizabeth "Elisheva" Gluck,

sister of David Gluck, sister-in-law of Christine Young and aunt of Violet & Gabriel Gluck

14 Allan A. Berger,

father of Andrew Berger

March

11 Frances Raven Sieman,

aunt of Gary Winter

SHA'AR ZAHAV / A WORD FROM THE RABBI (cont.)

(continued from page 2.)

the Bay Area after my experience with CSZ, interim rabbis are encouraged to practice a personal tzim tzum (contraction) toward the end of their term to make space for the new "settled" rabbi. At the same time, I think it is important for interim rabbis to model what a healthy congregant-rabbi relationship can look like, and thus my desire to get to know you."

As I begin to pack my office and make space for our new rabbi, I want to express my gratitude for all of you who have reached out to welcome me into your lives. We have dined and danced together, we have laughed and cried, we have prayed and grown.

I know I am richer for this experience with Sha'ar Zahav, and I believe many of you, and the synagogue as a whole, have benefited by taking these two years to transition smoothly between the leadership of Rabbi Angel and Rabbi Copeland.

A special note of gratitude to our president, Michael Chertok, our immediate past president, Laura Lowe, and to all of our staff: Cantor Bernstein, Adam, Leeaht, Carrie, Jason, and Matt – I value each of you and am so grateful for the time we had together.

Though I'll remain in the Bay Area, interim rabbis are advised to give new settled rabbis space to establish their own leadership. I will therefore say a formal goodbye to the Sha'ar Zahav community in May and will likely not return for a visit for the following year. My next step is into full time executive coaching and organizational design (www.tedritter.com) with a focus on guiding individuals and organizations through transitions. And so...I begin my transition as well.

Wishing you all many years of blessings,

Rabbi Ted Riter

(continued from the cover)

Struggling in Good Faith: LGBTQI Inclusion from 13 American Religious Perspectives.

She has a Masters in Theological Studies and Secondary Teaching Credential from Harvard Divinity School, a rabbinical degree from the Reconstructionist Rabbinical College (and has also become a member of the Central Conference of American Rabbis).

In her personal statement to Sha'ar Zahav's Rabbi Search Committee (RSC), Rabbi Copeland wrote, "I am drawn to Sha'ar Zahav because it is one of the unique places in the contemporary Jewish landscape where exciting, out-of-the-box Judaism is occurring and has the potential to transform the way we envision Judaism's future.

The core emphases of my rabbinate aligns with Sha'ar Zahav: helping communities celebrate radical inclusivity, bringing our whole selves to

our spiritual lives, and empowering people to own their religious paths."

After reading 16 resumes, doing nine phone interviews and bringing three rabbis for extended visits to Sha'ar Zahav, the search committee agreed that Rabbi Copeland's passion for building community, her interest in exploring and creating new Jewish ritual and liturgy, her experience working with lay leaders, her creative programming, and her knowledge of the Bay Area Jewish community made her the best person to be our next rabbi – and it didn't hurt that she also plays guitar and teaches yoga.

Rabbi Copeland will start working with us in July. You can read more about her at her website www.mychalcopeland.com.

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April

1	Adam Harris
1	Howard Rinkoff
2	Ronald Gertz
3	Abraham Cohen
6	Dennis Mitchell
7	Fred Hahn
21	Robert Stermann
23	Michael Randall
24	Norma Faini-Pick
26	Sanford Bernstein

May

1	Eugene Bender
1	Liselotte Huth
9	Richard Inlander
9	Jack Jacobs
13	David Delroy
14	Thomas Yazman
17	Nanci Stern
19	Allan Altman
19	Steve Goldstein
20	Robert Coffman
21	James Perkins
24	David Loeb


June

2	Mark B. Feldman
3	Janet Gaby
8	Robert Nehemiah Mackey
9	Duff Kreitzberg
12	Albert Stern
14	Mirtha Beal
15	Barry Siegel
16	Richard Rath
17	Joe Zygielbaum
20	Judy Macks
20	Herb Siegel
20	William E. Valentine
24	David Shaber
27	Gili Patir
31	James Harris Freedgood
31	Marvin Steele



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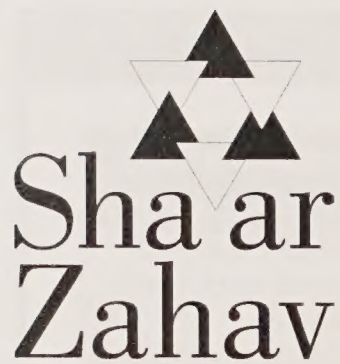
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Friday, May 12th – Shabbat Honoring Interim Rabbi Riter

Friday, May 26th – Rabbi Riter's Farewell Service

Friday, June 16th – 13th Annual Pride Seder
Check the weekly email for reservation information

Friday, June 23rd – Pride Shabbat

Friday, July 7th – 40th Anniversary Shabbat Service